

## Message Text

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12

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 IO-13 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15

USIA-15 SAJ-01 ACDA-19 MBFR-03 NIC-01 AEC-11 RSR-01

/157 W

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R 060832Z AUG 73

FM AMCONSUL HONG KONG

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7813

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

USLO PEKING

USMISSION GENEVA

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

CINCPAC

C O N F I D E N T I A L HONG KONG 7854

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, UN, CH, US

SUBJ: PEKING COMMENTS ON DISARMAMENT

SUMMARY: APPARENTLY DEFENDING PEKING'S OWN TESTING PROGRAM, AN NCNA ARTICLE HAS DESCRIBED IN DETAIL THE CONTINUED TESTING, DEVELOPMENT AND DEPLOYMENT OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS BY THE SUPER POWERS. BUT WHILE STRONGLY ATTACKING THE OBJECTIVES OF SOVIET POLICIES IN BOTH WEAPONS AND DISARMAMENT FIELDS, THE ARTICLE DOES NOT SUGGEST THAT THE CONSEQUENCES OF US EFFORTS IN THE NUCLEAR ARMS RACE ARE UNDESIRABLE. END SUMMARY.

1. IN A COMPREHENSIVE DENUNCIATION OF DISARMAMENT MEASURES, A LONG  
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NCNA COMMENTARY OF AUG 5 DISMISSED DISARMAMENT TREATIES AND

AGREEMENTS "OF ALL DESCRIPTIONS" AS BEING AS CHEAP AS THE "SCRAPS OF PAPER" ON WHICH THEY WERE WRITTEN. APPARENTLY FEELING THE NEED TO DEFEND THIS CHINESE POSITION IN LIGHT OF CURRENT CRITICISM (E.G. AT THE COMMONWEALTH MEETING IN OTTAWA) OF ATMOSPHERIC NUCLEAR TESTS, NCNA DESCRIBED IN SOME DETAIL THE CONTINUED TESTING, DEVELOPMENT AND DEPLOYMENT OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS AND MISSILES BY THE SUPER POWERS SINCE THE NUCLEAR TEST BAN TREATY OF 1963.

2. THERE WAS HOWEVER A FUNDAMENTAL DIFFERENCE IN NCNA'S TREATMENT OF THE SOVIET UNION AND THE US. THE NCNA CORRESPONDENT DEVOTED THE GREAT BULK OF HIS ATTENTION TO THE ARMS POLICIES OF THE "SOVIET REVISIONIST CLIQUE." THE ARTICLE ACCUSED MOSCOW OF "DECEPTIVE PROPAGANDA" IN PUSHING VARIOUS DISARMAMENT MEASURES OVER THE PAST TEN YEARS IN ORDER TO IMPOSE RESTRICTIONS ON OTHERS, MAINTAIN NUCLEAR MONOPOLY, CARRY OUT "NUCLEAR BLACKMAIL" AND CONTEST WITH THE US FOR NUCLEAR SUPERIORITY." IN DISCUSSING THE NON-PROLIFERATION TREATY, NCNA MADE A NEW POINT IN CHARGING THAT SOVIET DEPLOYMENT OF NUCLEAR SUBMARINES THROUGHOUT THE WORLD REPRESENTED AN "UNBRIDLED PROLIFERATION OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS."

2. THE ARTICLE STATED THAT THE US HAD ALSO "SPARED NO EFFORTS IN THE NUCLEAR ARMS RACE," BUT DID NOT SUGGEST THAT THE CONSEQUENCES OF US ACTIONS IN THIS FIELD WERE UNDESIRABLE. WHILE THE SOVIETS WERE ABUSED WITH SUCH TERMS AS "SOCIAL IMPERIALISM" AND "NUCLEAR OVERLORD," IN DISCUSSING US POLICY NCNA DID NOT EVEN USE THE TERM "US IMPERIALISM." SUGGESTING THAT THE SOVIETS HAVE NOT YET ACHIEVED STRATEGIC PARITY THE ARTICLE SAID THAT THE OBJECTIVE OF US ARMS POLICY WAS "TO MAINTAIN ITS SUPERIORITY OVER THE USSR." THE ARTICLE ALSO MADE A POINT OF NOTING THAT IN MIRV DEVELOPMENT THE US "HAS LEFT THE SOVIET UNION FAR BEHIND." THE ONLY OTHER INDICATION OF US OBJECTIVES IN CONTINUING THE ARMS RACE WAS THE ARTICLE'S CITATION OF US DEFENSE SECRETARY SCHLESINGER'S STATEMENT THAT IT IS ESSENTIAL FOR THE US TO "HAVE CREDIBLE DETERRENTS ... ACROSS THE ENTIRE SPECTRUM OF RISK" TO CHECK THE "ADVENTUROUS ACTS" OF THE SOVIET UNION. IN CONTRAST TO ITS SEVERE CRITICISM OF SOVIET DISARMAMENT POLICY NCNA MADE NO CRITICISM AT ALL OF US INTENTIONS IN THIS AREA.

THE ARTICLE AGAIN DENOUNCED THE 1972 SALT AGREEMENTS AS THE "ACCELERATOR OF ANOTHER ROUND IN THE SOVIET-US NUCLEAR RACE," BUT IT DID  
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NOT DISCUSS THE RECENT AGREEMENTS CONCLUDED DURING BREZHNEV'S VISIT TO THE US.  
OSBORN

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** DISARMAMENT, LIMITED TEST BAN TREATY, SALT (ARMS CONTROL)  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 06 AUG 1973  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** elyme  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
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**Document Unique ID:** 00  
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**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS OSBORN  
**Errors:** N/A  
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**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
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**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Review Transfer Date:**  
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**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** PEKING COMMENTS ON DISARMAMENT SUMMARY: APPARENTLY DEFENDING PEKING'S OWN TESTING PROGRAM, AN NCNA  
**TAGS:** PFOR, CH, US, UN  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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